

## Diaz, Angelique

---

**From:** Diaz, Angelique  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 08, 2013 9:44 AM  
**To:** 'pgoble@utah.gov'  
**Subject:** FW: White Mesa Uranium Mill Tailings Impoundment Compliance

Angelique D. Diaz, Ph.D.  
303.312.6344

-----Original Message-----

From: Patefield, Scott  
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2013 2:28 PM  
To: Sarah Fields  
Subject: RE: White Mesa Uranium Mill Tailings Impoundment Compliance

Dear Ms. Fields,

Thank you for your comments on the status of the impoundments at the White Mesa mill. I have also been in discussions with EPA HQ as well as the Utah Division of Air Quality, which has been delegated authority to operate the Subpart W program. EPA agrees with your determination that the White Mesa Mill is currently out of compliance with the limitation on the number of impoundments allowed by Subpart W. However, since two of the impoundments are being used as ponds, the mass flux of radon would be calculated to be zero. Since there would be no calculated health impacts from the additional impoundments being used as holding ponds, the Region does not plan to pursue enforcement at this time.

Thank you,

Scott Patefield, Environmental Scientist Air and Toxics Technical Enforcement Program (8ENF-AT) Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, CO 80202-1129  
303-312-6248 - direct line  
303-312-7202 - fax  
[patefield.scott@epa.gov](mailto:patefield.scott@epa.gov)

-----Original Message-----

From: Sarah Fields [<mailto:sarah@uraniumwatch.org>]  
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2013 1:51 PM  
To: Patefield, Scott  
Subject: White Mesa Uranium Mill Tailings Impoundment Compliance

Dear Mr. Patefield,

From our discussion a while back it is my understanding that the EPA believes that the White Mesa Mill is out of compliance with the requirement that there be only 2 operating impoundments at any one time at an operating uranium mill.

Has the EPA issued a Notice of Violation for that non-compliance? If so, I would like a copy.

If not, I would like to know when the EPA intends to issue such a notice, or why they will not be issuing such a notice.

Thank you,

Sarah Fields  
Director  
Uranium Watch  
PO Box 344  
Moab, Utah 84532  
435-259-9450  
435-210-0166 (mobile)